

proud to have sponsored legislation to help provide peace of mind to veterans and their families at that difficult time. Now, I look forward to working with my colleagues on securing the necessary resources to begin construction of these cemeteries expeditiously.

CONFIRMATION OF THOMAS HARDIMAN

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, in this sadly historic era of unprecedented filibusters of judicial nominees, the truth is an unwelcome visitor to those in the minority who seek to deprive President Bush of his constitutional duty to nominate Article III judges. The latest salvo in this increasingly disappointing game is the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee's written statement regarding Thomas M. Hardiman, who was confirmed by the Senate by unanimous consent on October 22, 2003.

The ranking member claims that Mr. Hardiman has "no judicial experience," which is of course not unusual for district court nominees. Although Mr. Hardiman has not stood for election as a State trial court judge in Allegheny County, a county where Democrats outnumber Republicans by a margin of more than 2-1, Mr. Hardiman is not without significant adjudicatory experience. In 1995 the Disciplinary Board of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed Mr. Hardiman as a Hearing Officer to adjudicate cases involving alleged violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct brought by clients against their lawyers. Mr. Hardiman served with distinction in this capacity, on a pro bono basis, until his recent confirmation. In addition, Mr. Hardiman has adjudicated securities cases as an arbitrator under the auspices of the National Association of Securities Dealers. His work for the Disciplinary Board and the NASD has provided Mr. Hardiman with valuable experience ruling on motions, reviewing evidence, assessing the credibility of witnesses, deciding cases, and researching and writing opinions. Without doubt, Mr. Hardiman's experiences adjudicating these cases has increased his preparedness for the Federal bench.

In addition to his quasi-judicial experience, Mr. Hardiman has impeccable academic credentials. As Senator SPECTER has noted, Mr. Hardiman graduated with honors from both the University of Notre Dame and Georgetown University Law Center. He was appointed to the prestigious position of Notes and Comments Editor of the Georgetown Law Journal, was a semifinalist in the first-year moot court competition and participated on the Criminal Law moot court team. Mr. Hardiman's academic credentials are especially impressive considering the fact that he is the first in his family to attend college and he worked part-time during most of his law school career.

Consistent with his academic achievements, Thomas Hardiman has

had a distinguished career as a litigator and trial lawyer. After working for the prestigious law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, Mr. Hardiman and his wife moved to Pittsburgh in 1992 where he has been a rising star in the Pittsburgh legal community. Mr. Hardiman is admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and the District of Columbia. He has been a member of the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the U.S. Tax Court, as well as the court he now joins. He has handled well over 60 trials. For the record—and to address the ranking member's semantic game regarding the number of trials Mr. Hardiman has conducted—a "trial" is defined as "A judicial examination and determination of issues between parties to action . . . whether they be issues of law or fact." *Black's Laws Dictionary*, 5th ed. 1979. Among these 60-plus cases are: four cases before the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, two cases before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, and 11 cases before the intermediate appellate courts of Pennsylvania. Mr. Hardiman has been lead counsel on several jury and non-jury trials in Federal and State court, and has tried cases to judgment on a variety of dispositive motions at all levels of the Pennsylvania judiciary. Mr. Hardiman has been lead and associate counsel on several equity matters in Federal and State court as well. Finally, he has handled matters involving real estate, contracts, securities, taxation, Medicare fraud, civil rights, and cases arising under the first, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, tenth, eleventh, and fourteenth amendments to the U.S. Constitution. In sum, Thomas Hardiman has deep and broad experience as a trial lawyer which is particularly extraordinary for a man his age.

In a letter dated June 18, 2003, Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and lifelong Democrat Ralph J. Cappy wrote of Mr. Hardiman: "As a professional, he is outstanding. His competence and ethics are beyond reproach. It is rare that we see a person of his age and experience argue before our Court, often successfully, with a courtesy and depth of knowledge which could serve as a benchmark for any who appear before us." The Chief Justice continued: "As an individual, Tom is exemplary. He is extremely bright and knowledgeable in the law." Another prominent Democrat and Professor of Law at Duquesne Law School, Kenneth Gormley, wrote on June 19, 2003: "Tom is a first-rate litigator, who is conscientious about every aspect of his work; he is a perfectionist when it comes to representing clients in a professional manner. As an appellate lawyer, Tom possesses an extremely high level of sophistication when it comes to analytical reasoning and writing. His written work product is first-rate. As an oral advocate, he is as good as any appellate lawyer I have seen in ac-

tion in twenty years." Professor Gormley said of Mr. Hardiman: "He is a lawyer of superior intellect, good judgment, and boundless energy. It is my opinion that he will constitute an excellent addition to the federal bench here in the Western District of Pennsylvania."

Finally, the dean of the Democratic bar in Allegheny County, David Armstrong, wrote of Mr. Hardiman on June 17, 2003: "I have come to know Mr. Hardiman as an excellent lawyer and a person of great intellectual curiosity and ability, as well as personal integrity. Mr. Hardiman's temperament, intellect, character and experience in my opinion, would make him an excellent member of the federal bench." Significantly, attorney Armstrong came to know Mr. Hardiman through trials they litigated against one another.

As the aforementioned facts demonstrate, the ranking member's unfair criticism and inappropriate reliance on the comments of a disgruntled lawyer in Pittsburgh who was the chief contributor to the local bar's rating of Mr. Hardiman demonstrate beyond doubt that the only partisanship involved with Mr. Hardiman's nomination and confirmation emanated from those who slandered him in an effort to defeat the nomination of a good and able man. It is always more appropriate to raise allegations about a nominee at his hearing rather than after his confirmation by the Senate. I am pleased to have the opportunity to set the record straight and I commend the Senate for its confirmation of Thomas Hardiman who will serve the people of Pennsylvania well as a Federal judge.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE EARL GOODWIN, FORMER ALABAMA STATE SENATOR

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I pay tribute today to a dear friend and Alabama icon, Mr. Earl Goodwin. Earl passed away on Friday, October 24, 2003 at the age of 93. He and I and our families have been close friends for nearly 40 years, and his death is a great loss for the State of Alabama.

Earl was a soldier in the United States Armed Forces, fighting on the beaches of Normandy. He made multiple trips back to England to pick up more groups of troops bringing them over to France. He completed these missions in aircraft that were unsafe because of their frequent crash landings. Earl was a true war hero, who put love of country before everything else.

After the war, he returned to Alabama and eventually created Bush Hog which became one of the world's foremost manufacturer of farm implements. Bush Hog employs hundreds of Dallas County residents, and has made great contributions in economic development to the region. Earl was a visionary with a smart mind for business. He will certainly be remembered for the tremendous difference he made in Dallas County.

Throughout his time in business, Earl was active in the community and politically astute. A lifelong Democrat, he became a prominent member of the Alabama State Senate, worked for Governor George Wallace, worked to elect Governor Don Siegelman, and served as a National Democratic Committeeman.

Senator Goodwin is an example of the American success story. Born into poverty, Earl took adversity and challenged it in every way possible. He was a war hero, a successful businessman, a husband of 61 years, and a father and grandfather.

Earl Goodwin will be missed by all those who knew him, and I hope this tribute exemplifies, in a small way, the kind of man that he was.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

JOSEPH W. MCCrackEN

• Mr. SMITH. Madame President, I rise today to acknowledge the passing of Joseph W. McCracken on October 26, 2003.

For over four decades Mr. McCracken represented the forest products industry in Oregon and other western States, as the executive vice President of The Western Forest Industries Association. Mr. McCracken represented a sector of the industry that I hold in particularly high esteem—a sector comprised of small, family owned sawmills and plywood plants.

These are the mills that traditionally depended on our Federal forest lands for their supply of timber. These are the mills that are located in small rural communities where they provide the backbone of the local economy.

During his years of service to his industry, Joe McCracken was a fixture in his town and served as an advisor and mentor to many of our predecessors in this body. Warren Magnusen, Scoop Jackson, Mark Hatfield, Bob Packwood, Frank Church, Jim McClure, Jim Melcher, and other stalwarts of our western Senate delegation looked to Joe for counsel and advice on public land issues affecting his constituents.

He represented them with a passion and commitment that was exemplary. Joe McCracken was a visionary and was responsible for creating and influencing countless pieces of legislation and regulations that benefitted his industry, the people that work in it and the communities that depend on it.

The Small Business Set Aside Program, as just one example, assured small, family-owned mills a fair share of the Federal timber sold from our national forests and lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

Joe McCracken was a pioneer in crafting the policies and regulations affecting the Oregon and California Railroad lands in western Oregon, today known as the "O&C" lands. He did this both as a professional staff person for the Department of the Interior

and as an advocate for his trade association.

Under Joe McCracken's representation, the small, family owned mills throughout the west prospered. Many of them are under second and even third generation management. Unfortunately, many of them no longer exist.

After Joe's retirement in the early 90's, a sea change in Federal policies regulating the management of public forests unfolded to the point that very little timber is being provided from these forest lands and many of the mills have closed.

Unfortunately, these were the mills Mr. McCracken fought so hard to preserve. Those that have survived owe their existence largely to Joe McCracken.

Joe was born in Dillon, MT in 1924. He served his country as a Lieutenant in the United States Marines. He attended Princeton University where he earned a masters degree in political science.

He had a distinguished career with the Department of Interior and, specifically, the Bureau of Land Management prior to taking the leadership position with the Western Forest Industries Association.

Joe McCracken was a unique individual who left a profound imprint on the growth and evolution of public forest policy and the industry that is so closely dependent on public forest lands. His contributions to this body in assisting us in the thoughtful debate and deliberation of these important matters are worthy of our formal recognition.

I extend my heartfelt sympathy to Joe McCracken's wife Janet and his two children.●

WORKPLACE LEARNING CONNECTION

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, in the middle of the last decade, a group of business and education leaders in Cedar Rapids, IA convened a stakeholder group to discuss community concerns. This group identified the need for a highly skilled and well-educated workforce as a top priority.

The fact that this group identified the need to improve workforce development is not news. Nor is the problem they identified unique or isolated to eastern Iowa. What is news and what is unique is the response.

In 1998, area employers, educational institutions and community organizations partnered with Kirkwood Community College and Grant Wood Area Education Agency to create the Workplace Learning Connection to facilitate work-based learning for area students. This project is a winner for everyone involved. Teachers and students get more information about local career opportunities and the skills needed for those careers. Students get experience in relevant, work-based learning activities. Employers get workers with

the skills that match the jobs they have.

The Workplace Learning Connection has been recognized as one of the 11 best Tech Prep programs in the Nation, is one of the top 25 school-to-work programs in the country and has been cited in national publications as an exemplary program. Over the past 5 years, TWLC has worked with over 700 employers to organize over 8,000 job shadow experiences and 750 internships; provided professional development activities for teachers impacting thousands of students in 35 area school districts in 7 counties; and facilitated hundreds of business tours and classroom speakers.

The Workplace Learning Connection has been an unqualified success and the community is celebrating the fifth anniversary of this project on October 30, 2003. In commemoration of this event, I wanted to bring this organization to the attention of the Senate and the Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO MARY ALICE ZETTEL

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute to Mary Alice Zettel of Bardstown, KY, on being recognized as one of the Nation's top principals in the 2003 National Distinguished Principal Program by the U.S. Department of Education.

The annual National Distinguished Principals Program was established in 1984 to honor elementary and middle school principals who set high standards for the pace, character, and quality of the education their students receive.

Ms. Zettel, a principal at Holy Trinity Parish School in Louisville, KY, has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for her tireless work in exhibiting excellence at Holy Trinity Parish School and has made outstanding contributions to the Louisville community. It has been said when entering Holy Trinity Parish School you will hear Ms. Zettel's laughter and happiness throughout its hallways. Ms. Zettel sets an example of excellence for the rest of the faculty, and the faculty follows that example, and she inspires her students to achieve academically and contribute to the community.

I now ask my fellow colleagues to join me in thanking Mary Alice Zettel for her dedication and commitment to the education of America's future. In order for our society to continue to advance in the right direction, we must have principals like Mary Alice Zettel in our schools and communities.●

TRIBUTE TO RONALD W. BARTON

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I would like to note before the Senate a great professional honor bestowed recently on my constituent, Ronald W. Barton of Arlington: the Chairman's Medal of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.